

Indicator RECOMMENDED	Current Use of Cigarettes by Adults Aged 18 and Older
Justification	<p>More than 400,000 deaths each year are attributed to cigarette smoking, making it the leading preventable cause of death in the U.S. Smoking increases the risk of heart disease, cancer, stroke, and chronic lung disease. Environmental tobacco smoke has been shown to increase the risk for heart disease and lung cancer among nonsmokers. Careless smoking is the leading cause of fatal fires in the United States</p>
Definition	<p>Percent of persons aged 18 and older who report smoking 100 or more cigarettes in their lifetime and also now smoke cigarettes either every day or on “some days.”</p>
Data Source	<p>Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</p>
Frequency	<p>Biennial</p>
Geographic levels	<p>National and State</p>
Demographic Categories	<p>Age, Gender, and Race/Ethnicity</p>
Strengths	<p>BRFSS provides prevalence estimates of adult use for every state. State-level estimates typically are based on larger samples than the National Survey on Drug Use and Health and may be further broken down by age, gender, and race/ethnicity.</p>
Limitations	<p>This measure does not convey the lifetime or current amount of cigarettes smoked. The BRFSS is a telephone survey subject to potential bias due to self-report, non-coverage (households with out phones) and non-response (refusal/no answer). Estimates for some demographic subgroups may have relatively low precision (i.e., large confidence intervals).</p>